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There are indications that Representative East is in danger of mistaking himself for a co-ordinate branch of the government.

If there should be any infringement upon the copyright of Mr. Bryan's book he would probably be more in favor of government by injunction.

The present Legislature seems very him in its determination not to grant any spe cial privileges or create any rings, political, educational or otherwise.

The bill before the Kansas Legislature providing new penalties for profanity is evidently intended to silence those who are sure to curse Populist mismanagement.

The fact that the governments of both Germany and France have increased the export bounty on sugar shows the importance of the beet-sugar interest to those

In the Eastern States labor unions are indorsing the House immigration bill be cause they have discovered that it will keep out a horde of competitors in an already crowded labor market.

It does not take long for members of sance. If it cannot be abolished entirely, it should, at least, be debarred from the floor of either house during sessions

At this distance it seems that in the State of New York Governor Black might have whose appointment would not have called forth a protest from all the prominent Republican papers in the State

It is the opinion of several lawyers who have given much attention to legislative apportionments that the bill adopted by the Republican caucus complies with the requirements of the Constitution as indicated by the recent decisions of the Supreme

The chief objection to the immigration hill which the House has passed is that husbands who can read and write cannot bring to our shores their wives who may not possess such accomplishments. Rather than lose the bill, that portion should be

Again there is talk in Washington of changing inauguration day from March 4 this year, but an effort will be made to make the change to apply to future inaugurations. Washington was first inaugurated April 30.

The treasury statement for January shows that the net cash balance was \$215,-363,420, but it is borrowed money-obligations redeemed with gold for which bonds were sold. Besides, the deficit for January was \$5,952,395, and for the seven months o the fiscal year \$43,854,792.

Able congressmen who poo-poohed the recent monetary conference in this city are profoundly impressed with the importance silver question. Their statesmanship is the kind that overlooks important interests at home and goes hunting tisionary ones

The statement that it will cost \$200,000 to give the Southern Hospital for the Insane a proper sewerage system is incorrect. The the city of Evansville will permit the us By some mistake an extra cipher has been added to \$20,000.

Senator Squire, of Washington, did not an. His influence did much to give the State to the Populists, who showed their appreciation by electing another man to the United States Senate.

In making his foreign appointments President-elect McKinley should remember that

The action of Governor Mount in vetoing

several thorough siftings.

in favor of keeping down expenses and against creating new offices is sufficient to the closest scrutiny. The Governor supthe bills over the veto. Indeed, the outcome is equally creditable to the executive line of judicious, and, in this case, judicial

#### MR. GAGE'S DIFFICULTIES.

The Journal has expressed its unqualified

approval of the appointment of Lyman J. Gage as secretary of the treasury. things considered, geographical location, personal character, financial experience and ability to inspire confidence in the business world, it is an ideal appointment. But Mr. Gage will not have plain sailing as secretary of the treasury. On the contrary, he will encounter embarrassment, restrictions and difficulties of the most serious kind. and to which, as a business man and president of a great bank, he is an entire stranger. As bank president, with a board of directors working in perfect harmony experience and trained executive ability have free scope. As secretary of the treas ury he will find himself hedged in whose existence he has never yet had occasion to be aware of, by departmental forms and traditions, and by a mass of detail methods such as inevitably accumulate in a great government department. In some respects his will will be law as much as it has been in the bank, but in many respects when he would exercise his discretion he will run against some act of Congress or some solid wall of tradition that will pre vent him. He will even find that in the greatest of government departments there scarcely ever heard of and whose operations he knows nothing about, though as It is not unlikely that these multifarious training may prove very irksome to him why a minister of finance should have to look after details of a bureau of engraving and printing, of the inspection of inland steam vessels and the management of marine hospitals. No doubt Mr. Gage will find his chief pleasure in grappling with the difficult problems of government finance and in trying to serve the country out for himself. But even here he will be hampered by laws and the makers of laws He will find that Congress has left comparatively little room for discretionary action by a wise and able secretary of the treasury, and that it has shut, locked and necessary reforms. He will find that some of the financial reforms which he regards of prime importance and which he hopes for the good of the country to accomplish cannot be inaugurated without legislation by Congress, and when the necessary legislation is asked for he may find a dozen financial quacks heading as many different factions and all pulling in different dimischievous policy of committing executive duties to a legislative body and putting Congress in control of our financial system, as we have for the last thirty-five

These are some of the difficulties that Mr Gage will encounter. They are numerous and great, and yet his success in other difficult positions justifies a belief that he will succeed in this. If he could only be assured of the support and co-operation of Congress there would be no doubt about it. Of all the difficulties he will encounter Congress will probably prove the greatest.

## PEFFER ON FINANCES.

Senator and soon to be ex-Senator Peffer, of Kansas, has an article in Monetary System." It is something gained admits that our present monetary system gues that our present monetary system is body knows would mean silver monometallism, but confines his stale and flat speeches wholly to the advocacy of bimetallism. But Mr. Peffer does not seem to be whether the best remedy for our present abandonment of metallic money altogether and the substitution of "credit," as he calls irredeemable paper money. We will let him

You might as well undertake to haul ton of hay on a bicycle as to do a hundred billion dollars' worth of business on a hundred million dollars' worth of gold coin. The only way a gold standard can be securemaintained is to use no more credit paper of any kind whatsoever than could be redeemed in gold if all were presented for payment at one time; and that, we all know, is utterly impracticable. As before stated, we have not gold enough to supply more than 1 per cent, of our daily needs for money. We use \$92 worth of private credit. \$6 worth of government credit and \$2 worth of coin in every \$100 worth of usiness we transact with the national banks. The simple truth is, we have long outgrown the metallic money system, and we shall have to invent something better. If men want to trade in gold, let them lo so; that is in every way legitimate; for gold is a commodity, and a useful one in many ways. But, as the New York Board of Trade said in a resolution, Dec. 9, 1896, 'a sound credit system is a necessary element to the stability of confidence." Money, in whatever form, is but credit coined. The sound credit system;" and there is no credit among us equal to that of the government of the United States. That, wisely used, is

ured by the amount of gold coin, and yet of the corporation, but the Citizens' Street-There can be no doubt that some of the he admits that 98 per cent. of the business | railroad Company has never paid a dollar new courts created in recent years were of the country is done on credit. As a mat- for its right of way over the public streets. their own, who, without such agency Church.

sufficient for all monetary purposes.

unnecessary, and the prevailing sentiment | ter of fact, there is about \$600,000,000 of gold | The streets are the property of the city, coin in the country, while the annual busi- and for that reason the city should have ness amounts to a great many thousands of the power to say when any company shall millions. The total bank clearings last week | cease to use them. If one company refuses were \$961,000,000. This is at the rate of \$49,-972,000,000 a year, and this represents only rates of transportation, and another comthe few cities that have clearing houses. Peffer says: "The only way a gold standard | owns the streets, in equity should have the can be securely maintained is to use no more credit paper of any kind whatsoever and the Legislature, showing a desire on | than could be redeemed in gold if all were the part of both to work together on the presented for payment at one time." In statesman and self-made financier, the pargold for its redemption. If Mr. Peffer should conclude to establish a national bank, and from all accounts he and his family must have made nearly enough money during his term to do so, his practice will be very different from his preaching. When he comes to look into the subject, if he ever does, he will find that the parity of paper money with gold can easily be maintained with a redemption fund very much less than dollar for dollar.

But, after all, Mr. Peffer's favorite remedy for our monetary ills, the one in which | teaching by making certain branches of he has most confidence, is the discarding study incidental rather than formal. Sumof the gold standard entirely and issuing an unlimited amount of irredeemable paper currency. To have all the qualities of and language be taught in connection with a sound currency, and to be really ideal money it must be irredeemable. "Money in whatever form," says Peffer, "is but credit coined;" therefore, let us have an unlimited issue of coined credit in the form of irredeemable paper. This is Peffer's farewell message to the American people on the monetary question, and honest men will not regret that it is. The surest cure for our vicious monetary system would be the permanent retirement from public life of all financial quacks and demagogues of the

VARIATION OF LOCAL TAXES. The report of the State Board of Tax Commissioners contains some statistics rewide difference in counties. In Henry counin Hamilton, 231/2 cents, and in Marion it is 25 cents. In Martin the county levy is the highest-75 cents on each \$100; in Spencer bridges. Probably county buildings recentcounties to be temporarily higher. Still, it is a very wide range from 15 cents in Henry

county to 75 cents in Martin. The levies, including State, county and township taxes in the same county, show even greater discrepancies than does the comparison of townships. In round numbers the State levy is 30 cents on each \$100 In Allen county the township and county levies range from 70 cents to \$1.37; the low est, in Benton county, is 90 cents, and the highest, \$1.75. The lowest levy in Clay county is 99 cents, and the highest in any township is \$1.95. The lowest in Martin county is \$1.65, and the highest is \$2.35. In about half the counties a wide difference s noted in the different townships, while in the other counties the taxation by township varies but little. In the figures above given the State levy is deducted, leaving only the county and township levies.

The levies for different purposes in the di 'erent townships show a wide range. But four of twelve townships in Adams county a levy for school tuition, while in Allen county the levy varies from 3 to 4 cents on each \$100. In Cass county the tui tion levy ranges from 8 to 25 cents. ive of nine townships in Crawford county have a tuition levy, and in the others it small, that of Whisky Run township being cents, or about the average. But three of the ten townships in Martin county, where the county levy is so high, have a tuition levy. Generally in the counties in which the levies are highest for county purposes the tuition levies are the smallest. The highest township levy for tuition is that of Stoney Creek, Henry county. The levies for roads vary somewhat from county to county, but inside the different counties are

A study of the State, county and town-

A VERY WEAK ARGUMENT. streets, without rendering any compensafor the privilege, tax the citizens whatever and generally ignore the general rights and

The franchise of the streets of a city like Gostlin theory there can be no such thin; as a franchise. A company can purchase a

The senator compares the property in ordisteam railways have purchased and paid it has purchased, because it is the property

to pay a toll to the city or to give cheaper pany will promise so to do, the city, which right to make a contract with such com-

Much is said about the property of the Citizens' Company, as if it were all the propother words, according to this retired erty in Indianapolis which is sacred. Half at least of the railway property is what is ity of paper money with gold can only be known as water or wind, while the property maintained by keeping dollar for dollar of | of the people in the streets has cost its taxpayers actual money; consequently, they have a better right to control the streets than a foreign corporation with its halfvalue property, particularly when the corporation has never intimated a willingness to pay a dollar for the use of the streets or even for their paving.

#### DR. RICE'S NEWEST THEORY.

Dr. J. M. Rice has a paper in the Feb-

ruary Forum in which he discusses the ad-

visability of securing economy of time ming up, the question he presents is, can reading, spelling, penmanship, grammar and somewhat subordinate to science or 'nature" studies and the various other branches that now crowd the public school curriculum and give the pupils a smattering of many things? It seems reasonable at first thought to believe that the child might learn both to spell and to speak correctly while was relating his information concerning, say, the growing of plants, or that he might become proficient in penmanship while writing out what he had learned of literature. Undoubtedly the youngsters do improve in all these directions while pursuing their miscellaneous studies, but it is probable that experienced teachers will smile at Dr. Rice's theories. They know that though the child improves in spelling, which absorbs all that is poured into it there must be a process of mental digestion, and this necessarily implies a limitation in the quantity of pabulum that can be used. Methods of teaching are seldom so perfect as to be incapable of improvement, and all necessary, and in experimenting Rice's ideas may be found to have a value,

It appears from the records of the state auditor that about \$36,000 was used last year to pay special judges who held courts There is official information to the effect that on several circuits judges have done a good deal of swapping circuits, which enables them to charge extra for their serv-

## BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

A Careless Guess. "What is that saying of Hamlet's about an eager and a nipping air?" "I dunno. Who was he talking about-a

#### "How in the world could you tell that old Mrs. Vidder that she had a complexion that

new policeman?"

reminded you of a peach?" "I meant a dried peach." Sights. Mudge-I think a woman on a bicycle is one of the ugliest sights there is.

The Deceiver.

# Yabsley-She isn't half as disgusting

spectacle as a fellow on a tandem with your own best girl. Rightly Offended. "If the fellow were not beneath my nosaid the colonel of the policeman who had moved him on, "I would wreak the vengeance of a Kentuckian and a gen-

"I don't wonder you feel hurt," said the friendly sympathizer: "a mug is something that holds beer. Why didn't he call you a demijohn?"

tleman on him. The idea of his calling me

## INDIANA NEWSPAPER OPINION.

The statement of the presidents of the dehearty approval of Greencastle people. There should be no legislation in Indiana that would give unequal advantages to State institutitus, and the nonstate presidents are right in protesting.-Greencastle

The danger is not to men in the use of years and over. Their chief recommendaemployed to saturate the paper becomes necessity almost to the user and the habit s fixed. It is safe to say that not one cigarette smoker out of ten but that will admit that he is sorry that he has become addicted to their use. For the sake of the small boy the cigarette should be taken out of his reach.-Columbus Republican.

The fact is that the Christian, Methodist, Quaker, Presbyterian, Baptist and other denominations that support colleges are taxed in effect twice for the same thing, n the effort to establish a larger unconstitutional draft upon the State treasury for the support and expansion of the State colege would do well to reflect seriously before they go further, otherwise they will realize at no distant day that an interdeominational compact of such force will have been reached to wipe out all State educational institutions in Indiana.-Noblesville Ledger.

The State Board of Education should be entirely free from any particular instituas it now is. The supporters of the Geeting bill are the representatives of the State institutions who would get the benefit of an educational trust as this measure provides for. Also the members of the State Board of Education, whose official powers would be enlarged to the extent of giving them almost complete control of the educational affairs in the State. It is quite easy to understand why these people would be in favor of the measure.-Seymour Repub-

The Legislature should not stop with the Vandalia investigation, because the first attempt to obtain the figures has failed. The seeming opposition of the receiver of the road to an investigation makes one the more imperative, for a legislative body cannot afford to have the rights of the people it represents defied by any corporation, It is probably the intended policy of the company or companies to delay the investigation until too late in the make its completion possible. The seeming effort to block the progress of the inquiry looks as if the claims of the State were recognized by them as well founded. The matter should be pushed and the truth should be known.-Lafayette Courier.

would now be paying rent for the roof that shelters them. But there is no doubt that abuses have sprung up that must be guarded against. The difficulty lies in this, that when regulation begins it is liable to go to extremes. Let it not be forgotten that these associations were formed and are adapted to do a great and beneficent work. Bar the abuses, but conserve the great purpose of these associations.-Fort Wayne

In 1888 the State was fairly divided on political lines, but the population has so shifted around and the gas belt territory made such large gains, both in population generally and voters particularly, that an apportionment cannot be based on that election. In 1890 and 1892 there were Democratic landslides, while in 1894 and 1896 the Republicans swept everything, with even greater majorities. Political lines have changed very much in the past four years, There are now new alignments, and as they are entirely unknown, they do not form a good basis for an apportionment. The only fair basis and the one that ought to be taken is the only one that is known this year, namely, the number of votes in each county. With this as a basis the apportionment will necessarily be a just one, and the one that carries the State by a fair majority will also carry the Legislature, just as it ought to do.-Greenfield Repub- his command to classify and index all the

It is to be hoped that the Legislature will former years fallen into much confusion not listen to the demand that comes from and is trying to trace the lost records, some some quarters that the State levy for school tuition shall be increased from 11 cents to 16 cents. This demand comes from those counties where they draw from the State | the Statehouse was occupied first. The in- | Printing Board in the usual way. much more than they pay in, and of course they would like to have the more wealthy counties assist them in their shortage. The Indianapolis Journal's point of cent levy under the previous valuation. The State now raises more than half the Many of them obtain from the State \$3 where they pay \$1 toward that tax. Besides, all cities are now paying for school, street and other improvements twice or three times as much on each \$100 of taxable property as do the townships in which those men live who ask that cities shall pay more of the money which they pay as salaries to teachers."-Crawfordsville Jour-

#### FOR MISS ANTHONY.

#### tunity to Meet Legislators.

A notable gathering was the reception given last evening by Mrs. May Wright Sewall in honor of Miss Susan B. Anthony. On arrival the guests were met at the door then took them to the end of the room. where, on a small platform, were Miss Anthony and Indiana's distinguished woman, Mrs. Zerelda Waliace. It was a reunion for many of the friends who have worked in temperance and suffrage and with others it was a first meeting with the two women who have done so much public work. The wall back of where the honored guests stood was draped with the national flag and a second flag, with stripes of red and white and a blue ground on which were four gilt stars, to represent the four States of the Union in which suffrage prevails. The accessories of the entertainment included a round of four rooms, in which particular friends of the hostess of the evening presided at tables adorned with flowers and from which refreshments were served. The guests invited to meet Miss Anthony included the members of the Legof personal friends. Later in the evening Mrs. Sewall asked all

of the guests to the drawing room and introduced "the General," a favorite name for Miss Anthony, Mrs. Sewall explained the meaning of the suffrage flag, which is One star, particularly large, stood for State which has had woman suffrage for thirty years, and the large blue field of size sufficient to allow the placing of forty-one stars more, one for each State, and as many Territories as shall exist. Miss Anthony gave a characteristic talk, full of good points and delivered with earnestness. She recounted the good effects which have come from a number of movements originated by women. One in Denver is a house for women in want or in sin. In telling of the work that had been required to secure police matrons, she said that if men were arrested, cared for, tried and were accompanied everywhere through all of the imprisonment by women, and never knew or saw a man through it all, that they would be lonesome, at which there was a sign of the appreciation of the humor and the speaker's way of putting the matter. She told of a petition in New York, signed by 600,000 women. It never created a ripple in the Legislature, but that many men's names would have made a great stir. It has been a labor of years with earnest women to secure the rights of property and other rights which they now possess. It is a matter of right and justice that the women should have the ballot and the plea as advanced by Miss Anthony was one that was warmly applauded when she took her seat In a few words Mrs. Sewall introduced

Mrs. Wallace, who said that she had not always been a suffragist, and then she told how she had been left a widow with children to support, and when she saw them growing up and knew that within the sound the voice there were houses of evil she trembled for them and she went before the time, who left his chair, took the floor and in his remarks said that the members of conscience but for their constituents, and that the constituents were in favor of the liquor license. "At that time I became a suffragist," Mrs. Wallace said. lieved that the men of the Nation want to do right by the women. The fundamental principle of democracy is that men shall give women the right to have a word to say in the government of the nation. 'It is not the question of woman's rights, it is not the question of suffrage, it is the question of doing right for humanity's sake," said she. The fire and strength of Mrs. Wallace's words and her manner of saying what she thought ought to be done by the men of the country for the better government, showed that her heart beats strong for the work. After the two talks a remark was made that the men had no oportunity to defend themselves, and F. T. Roots, of the House of Representatives, informal hour and then good nights were To-day Mrs. Sewall will have Miss Anthony, Mrs. Wallace, George W. Julian and Mrs. Ida A. Harper for luncheon. This evening Mr. and Mrs. John C. Dean will give a reception for Miss Anthony, and tomorrow she win leave for her home, in Miss Anthony, with the close of January

From here she will go to her home, in Rochester, accompanied by Mrs. Ida A. larper, and together they will write the Miss Anthony piography of the former. has had the upper story of her house arranged for a workroom, and there are a lozen or more trunks full of letters relative to the public work in which she has been engaged for more than fifty years. Some of the letters and documents are more than sixty years old. For eight months Miss Anthony labored in the State of California or suffrage previous to the close of the last campaign. The cause was won in nearall parts of the State, but not in San Francisco, and the majority there decided the cause against suffrage. Working with Miss Anthony was Mrs. Ida A. Harper, formerly of this city. In the close comanionship of the eight months the two deided on the work which they are about to undertake. It is expected that a year will scarcely see the completion of the labor, but when it is done it will be the record of the life of the woman who has been more prominently engaged in public work for the advancement of her sex than any Miss Anthony has probably made more public addresses than any other living woman, and even last year in the eight months in California she spoke every night and frequently during the day in different places, and all of this at the age of nearly seventy-seven, a birthday which she wil pass this month.

## A Corean Missionary's Talk.

Rev. Samuel A. Moffett talked yesterday Memorial Churches in the lecture room of Corea. Mr. Moffett has been a missionary to Corea for seven years. He talked of the early work in Corea and the trial endured by the first missionaries. It takes two years to learn the language. Mr. Moffett is a native of Madison, Ind., and is home on a visit. He will return to Corea to rehave been the means of securing to thousands of families homes of Moffett poke at the Seventh Presbyterian

INTERESTING MATTER CONTAINED IN THE REPORT OF W. D. OWEN.

Controversy with a Railroad-Classifying the Old Records-Legislative Suggestions.

The report of the secretary of state will be out of the hands of the printer in three or four days. Advance sheets have been issued containing the secretary's introduction to the report. The introduction touches upon a number of topics of interest. It is peculiarly interesting in its reference to the records of the office, which are far and away the most valuable archives in possession of the State, Secretary Owen is making an effort with the limited force at early records of the office, which have in | pends of which are, no doubt, mixed with a couple of carloads of stuff that was dumped into troduction to the report is as follows: I have the honor to submit herewith the

blennial report of this office, covering the period from Nov. 1, 1894, to Oct. 31, 1896, objection is, therefore, well taken when it | Under the act of 1891 the office has become says "that the amount raised by an eleven- | a source of increasing revenue to the State, cent levy on the present taxable property | The income for the fiscal year has been brings more money than did the sixteen- | \$61.125.55. By the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the State vs. the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway Company | to subjects. money expended by townships for tuition. et al. the State was deprived of a fee of \$25,000, which the office contended and still contends is due the State. On the 6th of June, 1894, the Chicago & Eastern Illinois | dling, have become badly damaged and will Railroad Company and the Chicago & Indiana Coal Railway Company consolidated, and thereby became Eastern Illinois Railway Chicago & Company, having an authorized capital stock of \$25,000,000. The articles of this consolidation were presented for been misplaced in the ordinary routine of filing on the 7th of June, 1894, but upon the demand of the State's fee, the one-tenth of 1 per cent, \$25,000, were withdrawn. The company has persisted in its refusal to settle with the State, notwithstanding it has frequent moving of the office, together with The Famous Suffragist Given Oppor- been called upon to comply with the statute and receive a franchise for the lawful this account many valuable papers belongtransaction of its business, but it has con- ing in the secretary's office are lost tinued to act as a common carrier, and is doing so at this time under its consolidation of June 6, 1894.

The action instituted by the State for the recovery of the statutory fee averred that the consolidated corporation articles were of the drawing room by Mrs. Sewall, who | filed when presented to the secretary of state for that purpose. The railway company answered that it withdrew its articles on demand of the fee of \$25,000, and that a presentation of articles does not constitute filing. The court sustained the contention of the railway company, deciding the fee not having been paid, the articles were not filed, as the payment of the fee was a condition precedent to filing. Other contentions on behalf of the State were not considered by the court. DOING BUSINESS ANYWAY.

As a result of this decision the railway company is exercising all the privileges and benefits of its consolidation. The attorney general will next proceed by quo warranto, and it is believed the company will be ultimately enjoined from further operations within the State until the fee is discharged.

It is clearly the intent of the law that a corporation shall not do business in this State without securing a franchise from the State, and the filing of incorporation papers islature and their wives, the members of with a county clerk, as proposed by the the Local Council of Women and a number | company in question, cannot operate to grant such authority. It is the evident turther intent of the act approved March 11, 1895, amendatory to the act of March 1891, to put in motion all the power necessary to bring derelict incorporations to the payment of their franchise fees. amended act has not received a construction by the Supreme Court.

The amended law provides that, until the articles are filed in the office of the secretary of state, and a certificate delivered to representative of the corporation, it has no right or authority to do business within the State, and that any contract made by it is utterly void. It would be a salutary aid in dealing with refractory corporations if the individual actors were held criminally responsible by further providing in the law that the directors or other officers in control, who do, or direct the doing, of any business of the proposed corporation, before the said filing and receiving of a certificate of incorporation shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be subject to

nne or imprisonment. The statute provides no specific mode for the dissolution of a corporation and a proper notice thereof to the public. It does provide that corporations expiring by limita tion, forfeiture or otherwise, shall be continued bodies corporate for three years after the time they have dissolved, for the purpose of winding up their affairs, but not for the continuance of corporate busi-Uncertainty and confusion have arisen as to the proper action in a volum tary corporate dissolution, and 1 recommend that the Legislature provide that a corporation on its dissolution shall file announcement thereof, under its proper seal, with the secretary of state, and with the proper county recorder, and that from the day of the filing of said notice of dissolution its existence for the performance of corporate business shall cease.

The statute declares that a franchise personal property, subject to taxation, but of such taxation may be called in question where the properties of a corporation are listed at valuation prevailing in the State, Legislature and made a speech on the tem- but when a franchise operates to organize perance question. In strong terms she re- a monopoly the ordinary valuation may not the State should name a commission determine the value of all franchises, to the end that they may be intelligently listed on the tax duplicates. THE NOVEMBER VOTE.

There will be found in this report a tabudential electors, state officers, congressmen, Legislature, judicial and other officers of the State, articles of incorporation, commissions issued, executive appointments, pardons, remissions, requisitions, warrants and proclamations; the enumeration of 1895 for legislative and congressional purposes and general information of a political na-Hitherto it has been the practice of this

office to accept the certified vote from the counties of the State as official and finar, and in this matter the law has been foi-But as the returns of 1896 were filed in this office and made of record number of omissions and errors apppeared on the face of the papers. I presumed in proper officials to the apparent omission or The result was that in every instance except one it was disclosed through clerical error the figures had been concluded her professional engagements. by this office. The last of the corrected returns were received at this office on Dec. This correspondence has brought coniderable delay to the completion of the tabulation of the vote, and also to the comoletion of my report. I am confident that upon as correct and in exact accord with the vote as cast in the various counties. I submit herewith also the report of Mr. Thomas J. Carter, clerk of the bureau of public printing, binding and stationery, Mr. Carter was especially equipped for duties of his office, and has brought to their discharge a fidelity of purpose and exactness in every detail which, united to his agreeable bearing in their discharge, has istinguished him as one of the most valtable clerks ever in the service of this bureau. His report is very complete and disloses the efficient management he has brought to the office. USELESS PRINTING.

The statute provides for the publication of 1,600 copies of the Documentary Journal, More than half of these ultimately find lodgment in the basement of the State-

nouse. The report of the clerk of the printwas made in the number of the reports of various state officers, for which there is a I have the honor to suggest that the fuure issue of the Documentary Journal be

limited to 600 copies, and that there be rinted of the several reports constituting hat journal 500 additional copies. Under the statute 2,000 copies each of the Supreme and Appellate Court Reports are to be published. The appropriation bill of the last Legislature provided for the publication of 1,500 copies of the Supreme Court Reports and 1.000 of the Appellate Court Reports. A question grose as to whether the lation or the statute should the appropriation controlled and his ruling | ernment to send a special messent been observed. I conclude that the this city for the copy deposited with islature will at this session harmonize clerk of the United States District Cour

the statute fixing the number of reports to be issued and the appropriation for their publication. The report discloses the expenditure of a large and increasing sum of money for printing under the department of the superintendent of public instruction. The clerk cannot prescribe the limitations for this printing and the State Board of Printing, however well equipped to decide upon printing expenditures in a general way, may justly hesitate to consent to provide printed matter of a technical and scientific character, involving the expenditure et large sums of money, when the board is without substantial knowledge of the necessity and importance of the publications. Indiana has the best common school system of any State in the Union, and the superintendent of public instruction is the director and overseer of its operations. The function of teaching in the common schools is a real part of the administration of state affairs. The officer in all the State who comes closest to the life of the people is the schoolmaster. He has a place at every family circle and, conjointly with the parents, builds the character of the growing family, and frames the destiny of the future sovereigns of the State. This function, so valuable and important, is closely under the direction of the superintendent of public instruction, and that officer should, therefore, be granted the fullest supervision of the methods upon which the efficiency of its administration largely de-

I have the honor to recommend that the Legislature make for the Department of Public Instruction a specific appropriation for the maintenance of that office, including the issuing of publications connected the vault under the auditor's office when bill finally to be passed upon by the State with the administration of that office, the STRAIGHTENING THE RECORDS.

> under a crude and imperfect system, according to which there was but little or no classification, either in records or indexes. The early papers and records of the office should be classified and indexed according Many valuable papers of the office, be-

The early records of this office were kept

cause of their age and the frequent hansoon be wholly destroyed if not copied and subject to some special effort for their preservation. Many valuable papers are not on file their proper places. It is probable that in

the long course of years these papers have business. The papers are most probably in some of the files, but are not to be readily found as business requires. This disorder is very largely due to the its records. It is fairly inferred that on

raults of the Statehouse basement There has never been a general overhauling and straightening out of these records, work has been manifest, the labor and time required for the work have been such that the clerical force of the secretary's office allowed by law has been inadequate to its proper performance in connection with the regular duties of the office. But it cannot be longer delayed. I have therefore begun the work of systematizing, classifying, and indexing these records. This will be

duties of the office. But the larger part of the labor I cannot hope to accomplish for the reason above suggested. I would respectfully suggest to the Legislature certain recommendations made by my predecessors. Corporations hereafter formed should be required to record the certificates of incorporation issued by this office in the offices

carried forward as rapidly and as far as

can be done with reference to the current

of the clerks of the counties in which the home offices of such corporations are lo-Notaries public and justices of the peace should be required to file in the office of the secretary of state the certificates of the county clerk that they have qualified according to law. Owing to a largely increased demand for he acts of the Legislature, provision should e made for the printing and distribution of a greater number than heretofore. The increased demand shows a greater interest

of the people in the legislation of our State.

They should be supplied with more copies of the acts, that they may know more of the laws by which they are governed and The of the actions of their representatives. A more definite law should be enacted regulating the admission and operations of foreign corporations doing business in this State. In some instances home corporations are placed at a manifest disadvantage as compared with those from other States, In many States foreign corporations are required, at least, to file in the office of the secretary of state a copy of their charter of corporation, and in some a duly certified and authenticated copy of the law under which organized.

## GAS JET OIL WELLS.

#### Girl Burned by One-Mr. Pearson's Explanation.

The family of Dr. W. B. Clarke, of Senevening resulting from a burning flow of oil in the gaspipes, such as has been noticed lately in several similar cases. When Grace, the doctor's daughter, lit the illuminating gas in her room, to do which she had to stand on the bed, a stream of burning oil shot up to the ceiling and fell back on her shoulders. Her cries brought her parents and the gas was turned off at the expense of a burned thumb. daughter jumped from the bed, some of the oil was burning on her dress and her hair was slightly singed. There was a patch of burning oil a foot long on the bed clothes, which was easily extinguished, After the pipe had cooled the doctor lit the gas again, taking the precaution to hold a board underneath, and the fireworks were repeated, but soon burned out.

Some think that this and other recent eases of the kind are caused by the mixin of natural gas in the pipes with the artificial gas, but the company denies that this s the fact. John R. Pearson, of the Indianapolis Gas Company, yesterday said it was the result of the recent cold weather, which has caused the naphthaline, a product of the carbon in the gas, to freeze and form incrustations in the pipe, instead of passing out, as usual. It is the melting and igniting of this substance which causes the streams of burning oil noticed.

## THE FEBRUARY CLASS.

School Commencement Exercises Next Tuesday.

The commencement exercises of the February class of the Indianapolis High School will be held Tuesday evening, Feb. 9. The Defrees and Grace Gookin, of the rank list. Edgar Eckhouse, Elmer Scott and Ethel Brown, chosen by the class, and Mary Pierson and Louise Van Dyke, chosen by the

The class includes: Lulu Adams, Olive aughinbaugh, Bessie Barry, Bessie Bodine, Brown, Frank Burns, Abble Bushnell, Elizabeth Chipman, Alice Christian, Maple Churchill, Grace Clifford, Kate Cofer, Harry Cohen, Helen Crum, Edgar Danner, Frances Defrees, Edgar Eckhouse, Harvey Elam, Herbert Fatout. Leonore Gastineau Grace Gookin, Dove Hall, Laurel Hisey, Georgia Holland, Nellie Holmes, Myra Kejlogg, Frieda Krult, Mary Minor, Belle Moon, Mercy Moore, Donald Morris, Caroline Norton, Edith Osborne, Mary Pierson, Pingpank, Mary Quinn, Bertha Ranney, William Ruef, Elmer Scott, Lesta Sebrell, Gertrude Selig, Debbie Shipman, H. Sonnenberger, Bertha Steinhauer, Georgie Stevens, Anna Todd, Wester Twimme Louise Van Dye, Alice Vincent, Opal Voris Olga Schellschmidt. Saturday afternoon/class day will be of erved in High School Hall.

Electoral Returns Properly Hands. At the office of the secretary of stat a redence is given a report that the ocal Indiana electoral returns have not yt reached Washington. The deputy sectay says that on Jan. 11 the electors m. a required by law, wi h A. C. Harris as 1atman, the vote was cast and the ipes were made out and signed. He saidtht copy was mailed to the speaker + 11 House of Representatives at Washigto and that Henry G. Thayer was select convey the returns to Washington i pe The only business of the secrety office was to receive and tabulate th vo for electors. This was done and theGo

issued his certificate. A. C. Harris said he knew of no dt; had neglected in the matter. He depsit one copy with Noble Butler, clerk f United States District Court; a secon col had been delivered to the postmastr transmission to Washington, and the thi copy was given to H. G. Thayer, the pointed messenger. Mr. Harris said h neither of the copies sent was rech The attorney general decided that at Washington it was the duty of the g this city for the copy deposited will